

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Mark W. Minne

Serial No.: 10/051,571

Filed: Jan. 17, 2002

Docket No.: 10003994-1

Title: MEMORY CARD ACCESS INDICATOR SYSTEM

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 23 has been added.

Please cancel claims 9-12.

Please amend claims 1, 13, 17, 18, 21 and 22 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A form factor card compatible for use with a host electronic device, the form factor card comprising:

an adapter region for interfacing the card with the host electronic device;

an on-card electronic device for performing a task for the host electronic device,
wherein the on-card electronic device includes a data storage device and transfers data between the data storage device and the host device;

an on-card intelligent controller; and

an indicator in communication with the on-card intelligent controller to communicate an operational status of the data storage device of the form factor card, including available storage capacity of the data storage device.

2. (Original) The form factor card of claim 1, wherein the indicator is a visual indicator and includes an indicating light having an on and off status controlled by the on-card intelligent controller.

3. (Original) The form factor card of claim 2, wherein a plurality of indicating lights are controlled by the on-card intelligent controller to communicate a plurality of operational statuses of the card.

4. (Original) The form factor card of claim 3, wherein the plurality of indicating lights are a plurality of colors.

5. (Original) The form factor card of claim 2, wherein the on-card intelligent controller controls the indicating light on and off status for a finite time period to thereby reduce power consumption.

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6. (Original) The form factor card of claim 2, wherein the on-card intelligent controller controls the indicating light on and off status to indicate that the on-card electronic device is communicating with the host electronic device.

7. (Original) The form factor card of claim 2, wherein the on-card controller controls the indicating light on and off status to indicate that the on-card electronic device is in a failure mode.

8. (Original) The form factor card of claim 2, wherein the on-card intelligent controller controls the indicating light on and off status to indicate that the card is properly interfaced with the host electronic device.

9 – 12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A memory card compatible for use with a host electronic device, the memory card comprising:

an adapter region for mechanically and electrically interfacing with the host electronic device;

a data storage device having a plurality of memory units and configured to transfer data between the memory units and host electronic device;

an on-card intelligent controller; and

an indicating light viewable by a host electronic device user, wherein the on-card intelligent controller controls the indicating light on or off status to thereby communicate to the user an operational status of the data storage device of the memory card, including available storage capacity of the data storage device.

14. (Original) The memory card of claim 13, wherein a plurality of indicating lights are controlled by the on-card intelligent controller to thereby communicate to the user a plurality of operational statuses of the memory card.

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15. (Original) The memory card of claim 13, wherein the indicating light is a light emitting diode.

16. (Original) The memory card of claim 13, wherein the on-card intelligent controller controls the indicating light on and off status for a finite time period to thereby reduce power consumption.

17. (Currently Amended) The memory card of claim 13, comprising another indicating light, wherein the on-card intelligent controller controls the another indicating light on and off status to indicate that the host electronic device is communicating with the memory card.

18. (Currently Amended) The memory card of claim 13, wherein the on-card intelligent controller controls the indicating light on and off status to indicate that the memory card is properly interfaced with the host device.

19. (Original) The memory card of claim 13, wherein the on-card intelligent controller controls the indicating light on and off status to indicate that the data storage device is reaching full capacity.

20. (Original) The memory card of claim 13, wherein the on-card intelligent controller controls the indicating light on and off status to indicate that the data storage device has reached full capacity.

21. (Currently Amended) The memory card of claim 13~~4~~, wherein the plurality of indicating lights are a plurality of colors.

22. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a form factor card ~~including indicating operational status of the form factor card~~, the method comprising:
monitoring a status of a data storage device of the form factor card; and

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~~controlling turning on~~ an indicator light on the form factor card communicating an ~~operational~~ monitored status of the data storage device of the form factor card to ~~the~~ user, including available storage capacity of the data storage device.

23. (New) A memory card for use with a host electronic device, the memory card comprising:

a data storage device having a plurality of memory units and configured to transfer data between the memory units and the host electronic device;

a plurality of indicating lights, each having an on/off status; and

an on-card intelligent controller configured to control the on/off status of a first indicating light on and off to indicate available storage capacity of the data storage device, including that the data storage device is at or nearing a full storage capacity and, of a second indicating light to indicate ~~that the data storage device has reached the full storage capacity,~~ and a third indicating light to indicate when the data storage device is transferring data between the memory units and the host electronic device.

24. (New) The memory card of claim 23, further comprising a third indicating light to indicate that the memory card is properly interfaced with a host electronic device.